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CHRONOLOGY

UNIVERSITY
OF MICHIGAN

JUN 8 - 1954

OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PERIODICAL

PUBLISHED TWICE A MONTH BY THE READING ROOM

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Volume 10 No. 9

22 April-5 May 1954

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ADEN PROTECTORATE. 27 Apr.—Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived in Aden for a one-day visit in the course of their Commonwealth tour.

ARGENTINA. 23 Apr.—One person was shot dead and forty-three wounded in election rioting in Buenos Aires.

25 Apr.—Elections. Elections were held to choose a new Vice-President, to renew part of the Federal Congress, and to choose new provincial legislatures and municipal councils.

27 Apr.—Preliminary results of the elections showed that the Peronista Party had gained a clear victory in both the congressional and municipal elections and that Rear-Admiral Teisaire, the Peronista candidate, had a strong lead over his opponents in the vice-presidential election. Señor Larralde, the Radical candidate, was reported to have been arrested and charged with disrespect to President Perón.

1 May—Strikes. Several unions (said to number fifteen) organized go-slow or sit-down strikes in support of wage claims.

5 May—It was stated that the number of unions involved in the strikes had risen to eighteen.

ASIAN PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE. 28 Apr.—A conference of the Prime Ministers of India, Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia, and Ceylon opened in Colombo.

29 Apr.—The three Commonwealth Prime Ministers (of India, Pakistan, and Ceylon) received a telegram from Mr Eden, U.K. Foreign Minister, who was at the Geneva Conference. The text was not published, but it was understood to contain an assurance that the British Government did not wish to be a party to any decision likely to be taken at Geneva that would conflict with the legitimate aims of the Asian countries. The Prime Ministers were asked if they were prepared to participate in a guarantee to assure the future of Indo-China if the Geneva Conference arrived at an acceptable decision or whether there was any other action they could take to reinforce a settlement.

2 May—A communiqué issued at the conclusion of the conference said that the Prime Ministers welcomed the attempts being made at Geneva to negotiate a solution of the Indo-China problem and were in agreement that (1) a cease-fire was required without delay; (2) the solution depended upon direct negotiations between France, the three Associated States, the Viet-Minh, and other parties invited by agreement; (3) that France should declare at Geneva that she was irrevocably committed to the complete independence of Indo-China; (4) the Geneva Conference should keep the United Nations informed of the progress of its deliberations on Indo-China so that its good offices might be used for a furtherance of the purposes of the Geneva Conference and the implementation of its decisions. The communiqué added that direct negotiations would be greatly helped by agreement on the part of all countries concerned, particularly China, Britain, the United States, and Russia, on the steps necessary to prevent a recurrence of a resumption of hostilities.

The Prime Ministers also urged that no more hydrogen bomb explosions should take place until the United Nations Disarmament Commission had reached an agreed solution on its elimination and prohibition. They declared that the representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations would help to promote stability in Asia, would ease world tensions, and assist in bringing about a more realistic approach to world problems, particularly in the Far East. Colonialism was regretted, and the view expressed that its continuation was 'a violation of fundamental human rights and a threat to the peace of the world'.

The Ministers had made known their respective views concerning Communism. They affirmed their faith in democracy and democratic institutions, and, being resolved to preserve in their respective countries the freedoms inherent in the democratic system, declared their unshakable determination to resist interference in the affairs of their countries by external Communist, anti-Communist, and other agencies.

Grave concern was expressed at the sufferings of Arab refugees, and the United Nations was urged to expedite their rehabilitation in their original homes. The Prime Ministers also called for recognition of the national sovereignty of Tunisia and Morocco and urged that their peoples should be enabled to exercise their right of self-determination.

The Prime Ministers declared that in their relations with each other they would respect each other's sovereignty and not intervene in each other's domestic affairs; that certain proposals relating to economic co-operation and mutual aid would be referred to their respective Governments; and that the Indonesian Prime Minister might explore the possibility of holding an African-Asian conference.

AUSTRALIA. 23 Apr.—Petrov Case. In a reply to the Soviet Embassy's Note of 21 April asking for the return of Mr Petrov to the Embassy to face charges of having misappropriated State funds, the Government asked for detailed particulars of the charges, and said that, as Australian law did not permit the executive to deal with persons accused of offences in the manner requested, Mr Petrov could not be handed over.

Soviet Note on Petrov case and announcing recall of Ambassador (*see U.S.S.R.*).

24 Apr.—U.S.S.R. The Russian Commercial Attaché announced that for the remainder of the wool-selling season Russia would not buy Australian wool, as she had sufficient for the current year's requirements.

25 Apr.—Petrov Case. In a reply to the Soviet Note of 23 April the Government 'emphatically repudiated' the Soviet Government's version of events as 'a falsification of facts' and refused to comply with the demand for the surrender of Mr and Mrs Petrov, declaring that Mr Petrov had been granted political asylum and that Mrs Petrov was free at all times to move wherever she wished and that the Government was not prepared to force her to return to the Soviet Union against her will. The Note denied that any attack was made by, or with the assist-

Australia (*continued*)

ance of, any Australian authority on any member of the Soviet party at Mascot aerodrome, or that it was responsible for any slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union. It protested vigorously against the breach of Australian aviation law committed by the two Soviet couriers in carrying loaded firearms in passenger aircraft, and it reserved the right to raise at some future date the matter of former activities of the Soviet Embassy.

29 Apr.—Departure of Australian Embassy staff from Moscow (*see U.S.S.R.*).

U.S.S.R. The Soviet Embassy staff left Canberra to return to Russia.

2 May—The acting Minister for External Affairs, Sir Philip McBride, told the press that, after requesting the departure of the Australian Embassy staff in Moscow within two or three days, the Soviet Government had then, under various pretexts, withheld exit visas, thereby clearly violating the diplomatic immunity of the staff. After a strong protest by the Australian Government the staff had finally been allowed to leave on 29 April.

AUSTRIA. 27 Apr.—At a Cabinet meeting Herr Raab, the Chancellor, voiced the Government's protest against the removal of the Communist-sponsored World Peace Council from Prague to Vienna.

30 Apr.—**Civil Aviation.** At a meeting of the Allied Council, the Soviet deputy High Commissioner rejected an Austrian request, supported by the three western Powers, for allied permission to resume civil aviation.

BELGIUM. 22 Apr.—**New Government.** M. Van Acker, Socialist, announced that he had formed a coalition Government of nine Socialists and seven Liberals. The Socialists included: M. Spaak, Foreign Affairs; M. Spinoy, Defence; M. Vermeulen, Interior. Liberal Ministers included M. Liebaert, Finance; M. Lilar, Justice; and M. Rey, Economic Affairs.

4 May—**Government Programme.** In presenting his programme to the Chamber, Mr Van Acker said there would be no change in foreign policy. There was a budget deficit for 1953 amounting to several milliards of francs, and he expected a deficit in 1954 of about 5,000 m. or 6,000 m. francs. Taxation would not be increased but State expenditure should be reduced. Though military expenditure would still have priority, a rigid check would be kept on it. The Government programme provided for a reduction of unemployment by public works, the re-equipment of industry, and economic expansion. The period of military service would be reduced immediately to eighteen months. The Government would maintain firmly Belgian rights in the Congo while continuing the task of spreading civilization in freedom and liberty.

Senate. The final strength of the Senate was as follows: Christian Social Party, 79 (loss of 12); Socialists, 72 (gain of 10); Liberals, 22 (gain of 3); Communists, 2 (loss of 1).

5 May—M. Van Acker's coalition Government won a motion of confidence in the Chamber of Representatives. Christian Social members, the Communists, and the one Flemish nationalist opposed, and a dissident Christian Social member abstained.

BRAZIL. 1 May—President Vargas announced a decree providing for the doubling of minimum wages in Rio to the equivalent of about £46 a month and proportionate increases elsewhere.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 26 Apr.—**Development.** Publication of Part III of the development plan showed that expenditure envisaged amounted to £2,395,500 and was to be raised from local revenue, loans, and colonial development grants.

29 Apr.—**General Election.** In the Colony's first general election to choose the nine elected members of the Legislative Assembly of fifteen, the People's United Party won eight seats, thus obtaining a majority of one. The poll averaged 70 per cent, and the P.U.P. obtained more than double the number of votes polled by their opponents.

BURMA. 22 Apr.—**Sino-Burmese Trade Agreement.** A three-year trade agreement was concluded between Burma and China under which the price and quality of goods exchanged were to be in accordance with international standards and payment to be in sterling. Chinese exports to Burma were to include coal, silk and cotton goods, light industrial goods, and tea: Burmese exports were to include rice, beans, timber, rubber, and raw cotton.

28 Apr.—**Asian Prime Ministers' Conference, q.v.**

CEYLON. 22 Apr.—**Indo-China.** A statement by the Government declared that it had given its consent to the refuelling of United States aircraft engaged in transporting French parachute reinforcements to Indo-China. It said there was no question of 'assisting in a colonial war', but Ceylon was definitely against Communist aggression and infiltration.

28 Apr.—**Asian Prime Ministers' Conference, q.v.**

3 May—**Indo-China.** Sir John Kotelawala stated that Ceylon was prepared to support other nations in any sanctions that might be imposed on a party which violated a settlement in Indo-China, but she was not able to help to guarantee a settlement if that meant sending troops to prevent a recurrence of hostilities as she had not the forces to send. He was referring to Mr Eden's message to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers attending the Asian Prime Ministers' Conference.

CHINA. 22 Apr.—**Sino-Burmese trade agreement (see Burma).**

26 Apr. et seq. **Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China q.v.**

28 Apr.—**Tibet: Sino-Indian Agreement.** China and India signed an eight-year agreement to promote trade and cultural intercourse between the 'Tibet region of China' and India. It provided that China should establish trade agencies at Delhi, Calcutta, and Kalimpong, and

China (*continued*)

that India should be permitted to restore hers at Yatung, Gyantse, and Gartok. India agreed to withdraw her military escort at Yatung and Gyantse and to hand over to China at a reasonable price communications installations and rest houses operated by her in Tibet. The agreement also provided for special privileges for the trade agencies in the two countries regarding travel and communication, and for the entry into Tibet of Indian religious pilgrims by specified routes.

Five principles governing the treaty were laid down: mutual respect for each other's territory and sovereignty; mutual non-aggression; mutual non-interference in internal affairs; equality of mutual benefit; and peaceful co-existence.

29 Apr.—Chinese-British trade negotiations (*see Germany*).

COUNCIL OF EUROPE. 26 Apr.—**The Saar.** The General Affairs Committee approved by 17 votes to 1 (German Social Democrat), with one abstention (German Liberal), the Van Naters report containing proposals for a European statute for the Saar. The German Christian Democrat representative voted in favour but made certain reservations.

3 May—Refugees. The Secretary-General of the Council received from the Netherlands Government a proposal that European countries should collect \$5 m. for the permanent care of sick, disabled, and aged refugees. The Netherlands Government expressed readiness to contribute 4 per cent of this sum. It also suggested the raising of about \$12 m. in European currency for the purpose of finding permanent employment for refugees.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 24 Apr.—**Treason Trial.** Five former members of the Slovak Board of Commissioners (provincial government) were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for conspiring against the State.

27 Apr.—The Supreme Czechoslovak Court sentenced to death two Czechoslovak citizens, Antonin Kandrak and Karel Gruber, for high treason and espionage for the United States. Four other defendants were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

5 May—United States. The Government protested to the United States against the dropping of several million anti-Communist leaflets over Czechoslovak territory from balloons released along the west-German-Czechoslovak frontier. The action was stated to be a 'severe violation of international law' and to have been organized by the American-sponsored 'Crusaders of Freedom' to disrupt May Day celebrations and to influence the population against the forthcoming local elections.

EGYPT. 26 Apr.—Border incident (*see Israel*).

28 Apr.—**Arrests.** About forty civilians and twelve officers of the Cavalry Corps, including the nine who had demanded the restoration of Gen. Nagib on 28 February, were arrested and put on trial by court martial for activities against the State.

30 Apr.—Unofficial reports stated that between thirty-two and fifty officers had been arrested—all but one of them cavalry officers. They were described as friends of Major Khaled Mohieddin (see 31 March and 6 April).

4 May—Fath Brothers. The brothers, Mahmoud Abul Fath and Hussein Abul Fath, co-proprietors of a group of newspapers, including the Wafd paper, *Al Misri*, were sentenced to ten years' and fifteen years' imprisonment respectively for corruption by a tribunal of the Revolutionary Command. Mahmoud Abul Fath was sentenced *in absentia* as he was abroad. He was also ordered to pay a fine of £E358,438. An indefinite stay of execution was allowed in the case of Hussein Abul Fath.

The Revolutionary Command withdrew the licence of *Al Misri* and placed under Government control all other newspapers belonging to the Fath brothers. These included the *Egyptian Gazette*, the *Bourse Egyptienne*, and *Progrès Egyptien*.

EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY. **23 Apr.**—U.S. loan to the Community (see *United States*).

Correspondence with U.K. delegate (see *Great Britain*).

FRANCE. **22 Apr.**—**R.P.F. and E.D.C.** Gaullist deputies issued a statement reaffirming the party's hostility to E.D.C. and declaring that neither the British guarantee nor President Eisenhower's statement fulfilled the conditions necessary to allow the Government to proceed with the debate. It also claimed that the independence agreement with Viet-Nam should not be signed until all details had been completely worked out. Confidence was expressed that the Gaullist Ministers would gauge the moment when their participation in the Government 'shall cease to be efficacious'.

23 Apr.—Morocco. The Foreign Office announced that the former Sultan of Morocco, Sidi Mohamed Ben Youssef, whose permanent residence was now in Madagascar, had given an undertaking on behalf of himself and his sons to abstain from political activity.

25 Apr.—Viet-Nam. A statement issued by the secretariat of the Emperor Bao Dai stated that while two treaties had been negotiated, one recognizing Viet-Nam independence, and the other establishing an association between Viet-Nam and France, the Viet-Nam Government had finally decided not to sign the two treaties. In certain respects Viet-Nam had not received adequate assurances that her unity and her independence would be completely guaranteed. It went on to say that it was well known that various plans had been elaborated involving the partition of Viet-Nam and declared: 'Neither the Chief of State nor the national Government of Viet-Nam can admit that the unity of the country can legitimately be broken up. Neither could Viet-Nam admit the possibility of negotiations in which France, contrary to the very principle of the French Union . . . should negotiate with rebels against the Viet-Nam nation or with Powers hostile to that nation, leaving her associates on one side.'

A statement by the French Government expressed astonishment at

France (*continued*)

the statement 'appearing to cast doubts on France's good faith'. Negotiations were stated to be still in progress.

26 Apr.—Indo-China. Request for U.S. aircraft (*see United States*).
Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China q.v.

28 Apr.—Franco-Viet-Nam Declaration. M. Laniel, Prime Minister, and the Viet-Nam delegate, M. Nguyen Tring Vinh, signed a declaration stating that France, 'faithful to the declaration of 3 July 1953 whose aim was to complete the independence of Viet-Nam', and Viet-Nam, resolved to consolidate her traditional friendship with the French people, affirmed their agreement to settle their relations on the basis of two treaties. The first of these 'recognizes the total independence of Viet-Nam and her full and entire sovereignty'. The second 'establishes a Franco-Viet-Nam association in the French Union, founded on equality and intended to develop the co-operation between the two countries'. The two countries had agreed to submit the treaties simultaneously for ratification.

30 Apr.—Indo-China. Prince Buu Loc, Prime Minister of Viet-Nam, arrived in France for discussions with Emperor Bao Dai.

5 May—N.A.T.O. statement on Marshal Juin (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA. 1 May—Riots. One Frenchman was stoned to death, and two Africans were killed and several injured in riots at Berberati near Brazzaville, which started after reports had spread that the bodies of two murdered Africans had been found concealed in a Frenchman's compound.

GENEVA CONFERENCE ON KOREA AND INDO-CHINA.

26 Apr.—The conference, which had been arranged in accordance with the decision of the Berlin Conference of Foreign Ministers (*see p. 132*), opened at Geneva.

Korea. The following countries were represented for discussion of Korea: the sixteen United Nations countries which had sent troops to Korea (South Africa only as an observer), the U.S.S.R., the Chinese People's Republic, North Korea, and South Korea.

It was agreed that there should be three chairmen—one from Russia and China, one from Britain, France and the United States, and one from the other delegations—and it was decided that the Foreign Ministers of Siam (Prince Wan Narthup), the Soviet Union (Mr Molotov), and Britain (Mr Eden) should act in turn in that order.

Indo-China. As the conference opened M. Bidault, French Foreign Minister, appealed to the Viet-Minh to observe the Red Cross rules of war, and to permit a temporary truce for the evacuation of the French wounded from Dien Bien Phu.

27 Apr.—Korea. Mr Pyun Yung Tai, South Korean Foreign Minister, stated that his Government saw no need for the withdrawal of United Nations forces from Korea simultaneously with Chinese troops as that would be equivalent to a burglar being disarmed on condition

that the policeman disarmed at the same time. He also made clear that his Government saw no need for fresh elections in South Korea prior to unification. All that would be necessary, he said, would be for members from North Korea to be elected to the existing South Korean Parliament. He appealed to China to return to her traditional peaceful policy towards Korea.

North Korean Proposals. Gen. Nam Il, North Korean Foreign Minister, circulated proposals for the withdrawal of troops within six months from both parts of Korea and for unification on the basis of free elections to a national assembly, supervised by an all-Korean commission composed of members elected by the North and South Korean Assemblies and including representatives of 'democratic' organizations.

28 Apr.—Mr Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, rejected the North Korean proposals, declaring that they ignored the United Nations, gave no more than equality to South Korea which contained three-quarters of the population, and were apparently designed to exclude United Nations supervision of the elections. Also U.N. troops would have to withdraw a long way, while Chinese troops would withdraw only a few miles. In his view the U.N. commission should be allowed to complete its work by holding elections in North Korea. He argued that Communist conduct was based on the belief that it could only survive by progressively destroying human freedom, and he urged the conference 'to show such strength of honourable and non-aggressive purpose that the Communists will find it acceptable to grant unity and freedom to Korea'. The United States sought no advantages in Korea, and Japan was no longer an aggressive force. If China and the Soviet Union were prepared to renounce their ambitions, then Korea could take its rightful place in the United Nations.

Mr Chou En-lai, Chinese Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, supported the North Korean and rejected Mr Dulles's proposals. While emphasizing China's irresistible march towards strength and prosperity, he insisted that she had no aggressive aims and that she believed in the peaceful co-existence of nations. He accused the United States of planning to create 'an aggressive *bloc* which is in conflict with Asian peoples' and which created tension in Asia; of refusing to recognize the Chinese people's right to choose its own system of Government and trying to impose the 'Kuomintang clique'; of having launched a war of intervention against North Korea in June 1950 and of having bombed north-east China and attacked Chinese ships; of having threatened China's security by crossing the 38th parallel and approaching the Yalu; of having, with South Korea, 'forcibly prevented 48,000 Korean and Chinese prisoners of war from returning home'; of concluding a mutual defence pact with South Korea 'which was in open violation of the armistice agreement'; of having invaded Formosa and converted it into a subversive base for aggressive activities against the Chinese mainland; and of using the Indo-Chinese war as a pretext for establishing an aggressive 'south-east Asia defence pact', thereby menacing the independence of Asia and threatening to start a new world war.

Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China (*continued*)

Mr Chou En-lai declared that U.S. aggressive acts must be stopped and the independence and rights of Asian countries safeguarded. Interference in Asian affairs must be ended, all foreign bases liquidated, Japanese remilitarization prevented, and all economic blockades and restrictions removed. He suggested that all Asian countries should consult to seek measures to safeguard peace and security in Asia. He also demanded an end to German rearmament and the establishment of European security on the basis of joint efforts of all European countries, a reduction of armaments and armed forces, and the banning of hydrogen and atomic weapons. He deplored the absence of peaceful Asian States such as India, Indonesia, and Burma at the conference.

Indo-China. Mr Dulles issued a statement in support of M. Bidault's appeal for a truce at Dien Bien Phu to evacuate the wounded.

29 Apr.—Mr Eden's telegram to Prime Ministers of India, Pakistan and Ceylon (*see Asian Prime Ministers' Conference*).

Korea. Mr Molotov contrasted the attitudes of Britain and the United States towards China, declaring that Britain was anxious to develop relations while the United States had seized Formosa, prevented China from taking her rightful place among nations, placed an embargo on trade, re-established Japanese military forces, and had charged China with aggression in Korea, although the Chinese 'volunteers' had been acting there defensively. He went on to attack the proposal for a south-east Asian defensive alliance, describing it as an attempt to set Asians against Asians, and said that no self-respecting Asian State would join it. He fully supported Mr Chou En-lai's appeal to Asian peoples to unite to ensure Asian unity, and said that the North Korean proposals could form a sound basis for a Korean settlement.

Mr Casey, Australian Foreign Minister, examined the North Korean proposals and, in regard to the joint commission, asked whether the number of members of the two legislative assemblies would be proportionate to the number of inhabitants in the parts of Korea represented by them. He pointed out that the North Korean Assembly, though larger than that in the south, represented fewer people. On the question of elections, he said there was no evidence to show that elections in North Korea were freely and democratically conducted, and he asked how, in existing circumstances, free elections in Korea could be assured without international supervision. Referring to the proposal for the withdrawal of foreign troops within six months, he pointed out, as Mr Dulles had done, that Chinese forces might only have to withdraw five miles while U.N. forces might have to withdraw 5,000 miles, and that Chinese forces could be brought back in a matter of hours, whereas it might take weeks for U.N. forces to return. He emphasized the dangers of an over-hasty withdrawal before U.N. interests and objectives were properly safeguarded, and said it was possible that U.N. forces would have to stay until a unified and independent Government had been democratically established. Mr Casey vigorously rebutted Mr Chou En-lai's charge of U.S. intervention in Korea.

30 Apr.—Korea. Mr Acikalin (Turkey) said that the U.N. task had to be completed and Korea unified and restored. The North Korean proposals ignored all the principles of the U.N. resolutions on the subject.

Prince Wan (Siam) emphasized Siamese support for the U.N. action and for effective enforcement of the U.N. resolution of October 1950 (see *Vol. VI, p. 649*). At the same time he expressed Siamese dislike of colonialism and the view that the independence and sovereignty of Asian nations should be respected.

The sixteen United Nations countries which had sent troops to Korea set up a sub-committee to co-ordinate policy, composed of the United States, Britain, France, Australia, Colombia, the Philippines, South Korea, Turkey, and Siam.

1 May—Korea. It was agreed to set up a seven-member committee, consisting of Russia, Britain, France, the United States, China, North Korea, and South Korea to discuss the Korean question in private. The committee held its first meeting.

3 May—Indo-China. A statement announced Viet-Nameese agreement to Viet-Minh representation at discussion of Indo-China.

Korea. Mr Eden, who was in the chair, announced that he had received a message from the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Sir John Kotelawala, asking that the attention of delegates should be drawn to the passage concerning Indo-China in the communiqué issued by the conference of Asian Prime Ministers at Colombo (see *p. 272*).

Mr Pyun Yung Tai, South Korean Foreign Minister, objected to the North Korean proposals on the following grounds: (1) the proposed all-Korean commission was a coalition designed to supplant the South Korean Legislature and Administration and to lead to Communist domination; (2) they implied the exclusion of the United Nations; and (3) the plan provided for the intervention of certain interested foreign countries, in contradiction of its avowed principle of barring foreign interference, and showed that the Communists wanted to supersede U.N. authority with an international body of their own choosing.

Mr Pyun alleged that the Chinese Communists had trampled on Korean sovereignty, placing a Chinese adviser in every key position, and that they had displaced 'their peerless Chinese culture with Russian barbarism'.

Gen. Nam Il, North Korea, said the time limit for the withdrawal of troops was open to more exact definition. In reply to Mr Casey's query about the proposed all-Korean commission, he said he had in mind a bilateral committee whose decisions should be adopted by the mutual agreement of both sides. Gen. Nam Il said that the great Powers could play an important part in the peaceful development of Korea if they undertook specific obligations to ensure peace and non-interference in internal Korean affairs. He strongly attacked the method of holding elections in South Korea.

Mr Chou En-lai said the release of prisoners both by the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission and unilaterally by South Korea had been illegal, and he accused the United States and South Korea of

Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China (*continued*)

obstructing the work of the neutral commission. He therefore demanded that the 48,000 prisoners should be returned and that a commission composed of the four Powers, China, and both Korean Governments be formed to assist in measures for their repatriation. Pending such action, he proposed that joint teams composed of representatives of the Red Cross Societies of the States concerned in the armistice agreement should be sent to inspect the prisoners in their present locations.

Mr Dulles and Mr Casey left Geneva. Mr Bedell Smith, Under-Secretary of State, replaced Mr Dulles as head of the U.S. delegation.

4 May—Mr Pearson, Canadian Minister for External Affairs, expressed his country's strong support for U.N. policy on Korea and his sympathy with Mr Molotov's declaration in favour of Asian national movements for freedom, but he said this freedom should be more real than that of Lithuania or Bulgaria, or of the Mongolian 'People's Republic'. 'The right to be free does not include the obligation to be Communist. Asia for the Asians is not the same as—indeed is the opposite of—Asia for the Cominform.' In regard to the Communist demand for the abolition of foreign bases, Mr Pearson asked if this would apply to the Russian base at Port Arthur. As for the prisoner-of-war issue, he said this had been settled and it would serve no useful purpose to reopen it. He pointed out that Gen. Nam Il's suggestion that the all-Korean commission proposed by him should make decisions by agreement on 'both sides' meant that the Communists would retain a veto on all decisions. The North Korean proposals were therefore completely unworkable, unfair, and unacceptable.

Mr Pearson described the Colombo declaration (*see Asian Prime Ministers' Conference*) as 'an important and constructive effort by a group of free Asian States to assist in, and, I hope, to take responsibility for, the peaceful settlement of Asian problems'. He called attention to the importance attached by the Asian leaders to the role of the United Nations in furthering the peaceful purposes of the Geneva conference, particularly in respect of Indo-China. Mr Pearson ended by declaring that failure at Geneva might well necessitate formal collective consideration by those who, as a result of such failure, would feel increasingly threatened, of further ways and means to meet that threat.

Mr Luns (Netherlands) said his country was represented at the conference 'to maintain the principle of collective security which is the keystone of the United Nations'. He appealed to the Communists to pass over from their 'ideological blueprint' of Communist theory and from their bland misrepresentation of other countries' intentions to the elements relevant to a discussion of the Korean dispute. He confessed disappointment at the negative attitude of the Soviet Union, China, and North Korea.

GERMANY. 22 Apr.—Dr Truchnovič. Dr Schreiber, Chief Burgomaster, announced in the west Berlin House of Representatives that the Senate had offered a reward of 100,000 marks (about £8,500) for information leading to complete elucidation of the Truchnovič case, or

to the prevention of similar abductions in the future. He said that information obtained by the police proved that Dr Truchnovič's abduction had been planned long before and was carried out with the 'full knowledge and connivance of the east German authorities'. The Senate had been informed of the measures taken by the western Powers to secure the release of Dr Truchnovič and was convinced they would do everything required. The Senate had also decided that complicity in any abduction of whatever form would make its authors liable to trial and punishment after the reunification of Berlin. Dr Schreiber appealed to the Berlin population for greater vigilance and asked the heads of west Berlin organizations to exercise greater care in appointing persons to positions of responsibility.

The east German Ministry of the Interior issued a statement accusing the western Press of a campaign of lies and panic in connection with the Truchnovič case. It repeated the charge that west Berlin was a base for espionage activities and demanded their suppression.

Soviet Terrorist Activities. A Russian, who described himself as Captain Khokhlov, appeared before the Press at the offices of the U.S. High Commission near Bonn and said that he was a member of the Russian M.V.D. (secret police) and had been assigned the task of assassinating Mr Okolovich, the head of the anti-Communist Russian resistance movement in Frankfurt. He said he had come over to the Americans because he was not prepared to commit murder, and he had brought with him two east Germans who had been chosen to help him to carry out the assassination. Captain Khokhlov gave details of the work of the Soviet agency to which he belonged. Photographs of the miniature pistol which he was to use for the assassination were circulated.

23 Apr.—U.S. Protest to Russia. The United States High Commission sent a Note to the Soviet High Commissioner in which he set out the facts of the plot to murder Mr Okolovich, as described by Captain Khokhlov, and said these events, which were followed on 15 April by the brutal kidnapping of Dr Truchnovič, indicated 'a deliberately outrageous and uncivilized course of conduct' on the part of the Soviet Government against which he most vigorously protested.

24 Apr.—West Germany. Yugoslavia. The Yugoslav Government sent two Notes of protest to the Federal Foreign Office. The first concerned the cancellation of an invitation to the President of the Yugoslav Parliament, Mr Pijade, to give a political talk on the Bavarian radio, and the second protested against a meeting of Croatian emigrants in Munich on 10 April. Herr Blankenhorn expressed the Federal Government's regret concerning the discourtesy to Mr Pijade and explained that the Federal Government had no control over the matter.

25 Apr.—East German Trials. The Federal Ministry for all-German Affairs estimated that twenty-three persons had been sentenced to death by Soviet courts martial between 17 June 1953 and 31 March 1954. During the same period it estimated that east German district courts and the east Berlin courts sentenced a total of twenty-nine persons to death and 921 to terms of imprisonment.

Germany (continued)

26 Apr.—East Germany. A Chemnitz newspaper, *Sächsische Nachrichten*, reported that a Chemnitz court had sentenced Stanislas Matlincki to life imprisonment for espionage on behalf of America and for planning sabotage.

Berlin. The west Berlin police reported that a certain Werner Mangelsdorf, who had escaped to west Berlin after helping to liberate political prisoners in east Germany during the June 1953 uprisings, had been missing since 16 January. His wife had received a letter saying that the death sentence upon him had been carried out.

29 Apr.—War Criminals: Spandau Prison. Following talks between representatives of the four High Commissioners on conditions in Spandau Prison, a four-Power communiqué was issued recording agreement on a number of improvements to be introduced.

Berlin. Chinese-British Trade Negotiations. It was announced that following negotiations in east Berlin, a group of forty-seven British business men had concluded contracts to a total amount of more than £4 m. with the China National Import-Export Corporation. Of the £4 m., about three-quarters consisted of firm contracts and the rest of provisional agreements subject to authorization to export.

West Germany. The Saar. In a debate in the *Bundestag* Dr Adenauer, Federal Chancellor, urged the need to abandon past national concepts concerning the Saar and to remove the differences between France and Germany. He enumerated six German requirements for a settlement. These were: (1) it must not lead to the setting-up of a new State; (2) civil liberties in the Saar must be safeguarded; (3) the European statute must be freely approved by the Saar population; (4) the principle that Germany's ultimate frontiers would be left to the peace treaty must be adhered to; (5) the Saar's economic ties with Germany must be restored progressively on the same lines as with France; (6) the settlement must be truly European and not merely the *status quo* clothed in European garb.

While expressing willingness to accept the Naters plan as a guide, he was emphatic in refusing to accept the proposal designed to give the Saar settlement a definitive character, and again declared that final determination of Germany's frontiers must be left to the peace treaty. He concluded with an appeal not to let slip by the opportunity for European integration.

Herr Ollenhauer, for the Social Democratic Opposition, condemned the Chancellor's concept of a narrow European integration of six countries and maintained that German unification could only be achieved by agreement between the western Powers and Russia.

30 Apr.—The west German *Bundestag* passed by 275 to 135 votes a resolution expressing support for European integration 'on the basis of equal rights and obligations'; confirming the principles contained in Article 24 of the Basic Law (empowering the Government to make sacrifices of sovereignty in favour of international bodies or to accept limitations of sovereignty in the interest of international security); and reaffirming the juridical conception of Germany's relationship with

the Saar expressed in the *Bundestag* resolution of 2 July 1953 (this stated that the Saar territory was in law an integral part of Germany).

Dr Truchnovič. It was stated that, in a reply to the protest of the three western commandants on 15 April against the kidnapping of Dr Truchnovič, Mr Dengin, representative of the Soviet High Commission in Berlin, had repeated the east German statement of 20 April that Dr Truchnovič had voluntarily handed himself over.

Gen. Oliver, British Commandant in Berlin, asked in a letter to Mr Dengin, that Dr Truchnovič should be allowed to return to west Berlin to place himself at the disposal of the investigating authorities, or that, if he was temporarily unable to return 'by reason of injuries received during the incidents now under investigation', arrangements should be made for the investigators to obtain his evidence.

5 May—East Germany. The east German Ministry of the Interior stated that Herr Heinz Gläske (who disappeared from west Berlin with Dr Truchnovič on 13 April) had been arrested on that day, and had confessed to being a member of the west German von Gehlen espionage organization, his work being to recruit agents from among British intelligence staff and to report on the activities of the British authorities in Berlin. He had made contact with the M.T.S., the White Russian resistance organization, and had passed on information to Dr Truchnovič on 'English espionage centres.' Official British circles in west Berlin said that Gläske had no connection with any British intelligence organizations and the British authorities had no dealings with the von Gehlen or any other alleged espionage group. Until further evidence was produced they agreed with the west Berlin police that Dr Truchnovič had been abducted with the complicity and assistance of Gläske.

GOLD COAST. 27 Apr.—Commission of Inquiry. The Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Governor to inquire into the resignation of Mr Braimah, Minister of Communications and Works, published its report. It found that allegations of general misconduct among high Government officials were not substantiated, but that Mr Braimah had accepted a gift of £2,000 from a contractor knowing that the money was given to influence him in his official duties. The Commission also criticized the conduct of Mr Ohene Djan, formerly ministerial secretary to the Finance Ministry, and of Mr Krobo Edusei, ministerial secretary to the Ministry of Justice.

28 Apr.—Statement on constitutional changes (*see Great Britain*).

GREAT BRITAIN. 26 Apr.—United States. Admiral Radford, chairman of the United States joint Chiefs of Staffs, arrived from Paris and held discussions with the British Chiefs of Staff, leaving later for Washington.

Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China q.v.

27 Apr.—Indo-China. In a statement in Parliament, Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister, said that during the recent N.A.T.O. Council meeting in Paris there were conversations between the Foreign Ministers especially about the 'grave local situation in French Indo-

Great Britain (*continued*)

China. No decisions were taken in advance of the conference at Geneva'. The timing of the climax of the assault on the French fortress of Dien Bien Phu was 'not without significance; but it must not be allowed to prejudice the sense of world proportion which should inspire the conference'. The Government were 'not prepared to give any undertaking about United Kingdom military action in Indo-China in advance of the results of Geneva. We have not entered into any new political or military commitments'. Mr Eden had made it clear to his colleagues at Geneva that if settlements were reached there the Government would be ready to play their full part in supporting them in order to promote peace in the Far East.

28 Apr.—Gold Coast. Mr Hopkinson, Minister of State, Colonial Office, informed the Commons that exchanges with the Gold Coast Government on constitutional reform had been successfully concluded and draft instruments were being prepared. They would provide for an enlarged Legislative Assembly, chosen by direct election, and for a Cabinet of representative Ministers drawn from the Assembly which would be responsible for internal self-government, subject to the continuing reserved powers of the Governor in external affairs, defence, Togoland, and certain police matters. It was intended that the Governor should be assisted by a deputy Governor and by a committee which would include the Prime Minister and other representative Ministers. It had been agreed that a judicial service commission should be set up to advise on, and later to be responsible for, judicial appointments, and that at a later stage the Public Service Commission should become responsible for public service appointments. H.M. Government had welcomed a proposal of the Gold Coast Government that, in order to preserve the confidence of oversea investors, provision should be made in the constitution guaranteeing fair compensation should a successor Government ever consider an act of nationalization essential.

British Honduras. The report of the inquiry into allegations of contacts between the People's United Party of British Honduras and Guatemala was published as a White Paper (Cmd. 9139, S.O. 1s. 3d.).

Kenya. Mr Hopkinson, in a statement in the Commons, said that Mau-Mau had achieved almost complete domination of Africans in Nairobi by murder, armed robbery, intimidation, and the levying of protection money on shopkeepers and tradesmen. The object of the recent large-scale operation was to remove Mau-Mau supporters to camps for a thorough screening. From the night of 23–24 April when the operation began about 10,000 Africans had been detained for further screening. Since then there had been virtually no crime in the city.

29 Apr.—Cyprus. Greek memorandum (*see Greece*).

British-Chinese trade contracts (*see Germany*).

Labour Party Split. During a debate on the hydrogen bomb sixty-three Labour members supported a Labour back benchers' amendment to include a clause to prevent the production of the bomb without Parliament's authorization. The party leaders and other Labour members abstained, Mr Strauss having explained in the debate that it had been a

universal decision of all parties that there should not be unilateral disarmament in regard to atomic weapons. The amendment was negatived by 219 votes to 63.

3 May—Korea. Mr Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State, Foreign Office, stated in a written parliamentary answer that the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Korea was being obstructed by its Communist members. Giving examples, he mentioned that both sides in Korea were supposed to submit to the commission reports on rotation of personnel and on military equipment consumed, taken out of, or brought into Korea. Although the number of Chinese forces in Korea was as large as, if not larger than, that of the United Nations forces, by the end of February the Communist reports showed "nil" in respect of combat aircraft and armoured vehicles, and nine weapons taken out and one weapon brought in. Under the head of personnel the respective figures reported were: Permanent arrivals since "A" day: United Nations, 180,364; Communists, 9,836. Permanent departures since 'A' day: United Nations, 214,424; Communists, 23,699.

European Coal and Steel Community. The Government published as a White Paper (Cmd. 9147, price 4d.) an exchange of correspondence between M. Monnet, president of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, and Sir Cecil Weir, head of the U.K. delegation to the High Authority, concerning the association of the United Kingdom with the Community.

In a letter dated 24 December 1953 M. Monnet stated that the High Authority was ready to open immediate negotiations with the U.K. Government, and, after mentioning the unwillingness of the British Government to consider any delegation of sovereignty to common institutions, it proposed as a basis for association: (1) an association between markets involving the reduction and if possible elimination of reciprocal protective measures, and the institution of rules which each party would undertake to respect; (2) a procedure of common action; and (3) joint institutions responsible for watching over the operation of the system, for preparing common action, and taking joint decisions. He suggested that in regard to common action, the High Authority and the United Kingdom should jointly study the trend of the market and the living conditions of the labour force and establish in common the long-term outlook for consumption and exports; and also that wherever either party contemplated important action it would consult with the other and would offer the alternatives of common action in agreement for the whole of the two markets or allowing the other party to proceed unilaterally to the action envisaged. M. Monnet proposed that to give effect to the association between the High Authority and the United Kingdom a Council of Association should be created which might be composed of three members of the High Authority and three members appointed by the U.K. Government.

In his reply, dated 29 April 1954, Sir Cecil Weir suggested discussions with M. Monnet on the precise form of the association and invited M. Monnet to London for the purpose. M. Monnet accepted the invitation on 30 April.

GREECE. 28 Apr.—Cyprus. The Minister of Justice instructed the Public Prosecutor to take action against the editor of the fortnightly newspaper *Astynomika Nea* for publishing an article criticizing the Government's Cyprus policy.

The Foreign Ministry confirmed that the Turkish Government had expressed its concern at the possibility of a Greek appeal to the United Nations on the Cyprus issue.

29 Apr.—Cyprus. The Government announced that in a memorandum which it had sent to all allied Governments it had stated that Greece would not bring the Cyprus issue before the United Nations before exhausting all efforts for a friendly settlement with Britain. But it had pointed out that all Greek requests for bipartite talks with Britain had met with a refusal from the British Government without any explanation. In the Greek Government's view responsibility for bringing the issue before the United Nations would therefore lie with British intransigence. The memorandum stated that, as a result of illiberal measures enacted in Cyprus since 1931, intense anti-British feeling had been created and was believed to be gaining momentum. It declared that British strategic arguments were unfounded as Cyprus in Greek hands would serve equally well as a military base and would be available to Britain and other western anti-Communist Powers after the negotiation of an agreement. Its value as a military base would in fact be enhanced by securing the full co-operation of the local population. The memorandum said further that Greece would be prepared to accept any international guarantee regulating a *modus vivendi* for the Turkish minority. It promised that if the issue had to be brought before the United Nations on 22 August, the Government would see that the discussions were kept from becoming anti-British and would avoid playing into the hands of Cominformists.

30 Apr.—Earthquake. A severe earthquake occurred in Thessaly.

2 May—It was officially announced that thirty-one persons were killed and at least 160 injured in the earthquake.

3 May—The numbers rendered homeless by the earthquake were estimated at between 30,000 and 35,000.

Cyprus. Field-Marshal Papagos, Prime Minister, said there should be no doubts in London about the Government's firm policy on the Cyprus issue. The Government could not ignore the demand of 40,000 Greeks from Cyprus who, relying on the common ideals for which Greeks and Britons had fought side by side, asked that they should share the same fate as all other Greeks. The increasing indignation of Greek public opinion and the reaction against Britain in this crucial region of Atlantic defence represented a danger which the Government could not ignore. If Britain's negative attitude towards the Greek request for a friendly settlement continued, the only course left to Greece was an appeal to the United Nations.

Earthquake. The Foreign Ministry announced that Mr Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, had told the Foreign Minister at Geneva that the United States would accept inhabitants of the stricken area of Thessaly as immigrants.

INDIA. 22 Apr.—Indo-China. Mr Nehru, Prime Minister, reaffirmed in the Council of States that Indian policy was not to allow foreign troops 'to pass India either by flying over or any other way'. He was replying to Mr Sundarayya, the Communist Party leader, who had referred to the American airlift of French troops to Indo-China.

24 Apr.—Indo-China. Mr Nehru, Prime Minister, speaking in the House of the People, put forward the following proposals for a settlement in Indo-China: (1) that all concerned should desist from threats, and that the combatants should refrain from increasing the tempo of the war; (2) that in order to bring about a cease-fire, the subject should be given priority on the Geneva Conference agenda, and a cease-fire group should be established consisting of the actual belligerents—France and the three Associated States, and the Viet-Minh; (3) that the conference should decide that the complete independence of Indo-China be placed beyond all doubt by an unequivocal commitment by the French Government; (4) that direct negotiations between the parties immediately and principally concerned should be initiated by the conference; (5) that a solemn agreement for non-intervention, denying aid of every kind to the combatants should be brought about by the conference with the United States, Russia, Britain, and China as the primary parties; (6) that the United Nations should be informed of the progress of the conference, and its good offices sought for the purposes of conciliation but not sanctions.

28 Apr.—Asian Prime Ministers' Conference, q.v.

Sino-Indian agreement on Tibet (*see China*).

5 May—A reply from Mr Nehru to Mr Eden's telegram (*see Asian Prime Ministers' Conference, 29 April*) was handed to the British High Commissioner. It was understood to state that the Government would be willing to be associated with, or participate in, a guarantee to assure the future of Indo-China, should the Geneva Conference arrive at a settlement, and should India be invited by both sides.

INDO-CHINA. 22 Apr.—Laos. A French column sweeping through northern Laos reached a point eighty-seven miles north-east of Luang Prabang and nineteen miles south-west of the southern border of Tongking.

23 Apr. Dien Bien Phu. After fierce fighting in which both sides suffered heavy casualties the Viet-Minh captured an important western outpost and the northern half of the airstrip.

U.S. Air Lift. The first U.S. aircraft bringing French parachute reinforcements from Paris arrived in Saigon.

Central Annam. A sharp clash took place east of Pleiku. Fifty miles to the south near Cheo Rheo a motorized patrol was ambushed by the Viet-Minh and surrendered after exhausting its ammunition.

24 Apr.—Mr Nehru's proposals for cease-fire (*see India*).

25 Apr.—Statement by Emperor Bao Dai on Franco-Viet-Nam negotiations (*see France*).

French Union forces in the delta began a cleaning-up operation about twelve miles west of Hanoi.

Indo-China (continued)

26 Apr.—*et seq.* **Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China** *q.v.*

The French Command denied the Viet-Minh claim that half the supplies parachuted to Dien Bien Phu had been falling into Viet-Minh hands, and said that the defenders had received an average proportion of 88 per cent.

The Viet-Minh captured a post in the Red River delta near Phat Diem after the Viet-Nameese garrison had suffered appreciable losses.

The French Air Force flew the largest number of sorties since the beginning of the war.

27 Apr.—British statement on Indo-China (*see Great Britain*).

28 Apr.—**Franco-Viet-Nam Declaration** (*see France*).

It was announced that the Franco-Laotian column advancing northwards from Luang Prabang had occupied Mong Khoua, forty-six miles south-west of Dien Bien Phu.

Viet-Minh pressure at Dien Bien Phu was reported to be concentrated against the western and north-western flanks and against the isolated southern strong point.

30 Apr.—**Viet-Nam.** A crowd, estimated at 10,000, demonstrated in Hanoi against any partition of Indo-China, and demanded unity and independence. The Hanoi Municipal Council passed a resolution asking Emperor Bao Dai to break off the current negotiations with the French Government and to repudiate all connections with the French Union.

Discussions between Emperor Bao Dai and Prince Buu Loc (*see France*).

1 May—**Viet-Minh Offensive.** The Viet-Minh launched their third major assault on Dien Bien Phu. They also resumed operations in the delta, concentrating on road and rail communications between Hanoi and Haiphong.

Viet-Nam. Mr Nguyen Huu Tri, Governor of Northern Viet-Nam, declared at Hanoi that the Viet-Nam Government and people would not accept partition of Viet-Nam at any price.

Pham Cong Tac, head of the Cao Daist sect, broadcast from the private wireless station of the Cao Daist capital, Tay Ninh, an appeal to Ho Chi Minh, the Viet-Minh leader, to be reconciled with his 'former colleague' Bao Dai, declaring that Viet-Nam owed the grant of independence by France jointly to 'the armed resistance of the Viet-Minh and the political activity of Bao Dai'.

2 May—**Dien Bien Phu.** After fierce fighting in which both sides suffered heavy casualties, the Viet-Minh captured two strong points to the east of the main camp and one to the west. French Union troops in the isolated post to the south recaptured a lost position after two counter-attacks. The garrison received 150 parachuted reinforcements—all volunteers.

3 May—M. Dejean, French Commissioner-General, stated in Saigon, 'on the instructions of the French Government', that France had no intention of seeking an Indo-China settlement on the basis of a partition of Viet-Nam territory. Formal assurances to this effect had

been given on 25 April by M. Bidault, French Foreign Minister, to Mr Nguyen Quoc Dinh, Viet-Nam Foreign Minister.

Dien Bien Phu. On resuming the offensive later in the day the Viet-Minh captured another support post to the west of the main camp.

4 May—A French counter-attack failed to retake the western post.

A message from the Emperor Bao Dai was published in Saigon. In it he denounced the idea of partitioning Viet-Nam and underlined the danger of enlarging the war and thus making Viet-Nam an immense battlefield for the armies of the world powers.

5 May—An explanation by Pham Cong Tac of his broadcast of 1 May (obtained by the Viet-Nam authorities before authorizing publication of the broadcast) stated that it was an 'indirect appeal to the nationalists in the Viet-Minh ranks', and that it was impossible to collaborate with Chinese or Soviet Communism, but Communism could be used as a weapon to win independence.

Dien Bien Phu. A spell of fine weather enabled the French to use all their air forces in attacks on enemy positions at Dien Bien Phu.

INDONESIA. 28 Apr.—Asian Prime Ministers' Conference, *q.v.*

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION. 26 Apr.—U.S.S.R. The Director-General of I.L.O. announced that the Soviet Union had accepted the obligations of the Constitution (thus becoming a member).

IRAQ. 22 Apr.—A royal decree was issued announcing the resignation of the Foreign Minister, Sayid Musa Al Shahbander. It stated that he had been appointed Ambassador to the United States.

25 Apr.—U.S. Military Aid. It was officially announced that Iraq would receive military aid from the United States 'without any political obligations or commitments'.

27 Apr.—King Feisal called on Nuri es-Said, leader of the Constitutional Union Party, to form a Cabinet, having failed to persuade Fadhil Jamali to withdraw his resignation. (In the previous week, after strong criticism in Parliament on the ground that he had failed to take adequate measures to deal with the flood situation, Fadhil Jamali had refused to remain in office unless the King agreed to dissolve Parliament.)

29 Apr.—New Government. A new Government under Senator Arshad al-Umari was announced. Fadhil al-Jamali, the retiring Prime Minister, was included as Foreign Minister and acting Minister of Education, and three of the former Ministers remained in office: Gen. Hussein Makki Khammas, Defence; Abdul Ghani Dalli, Agriculture; and Said Qassas, Interior. Abdul Majid Mahmud was the new Finance Minister.

ISRAEL. 26 Apr.—Border incident (*see Syria*).

Egypt. It was stated in Jerusalem that Israeli forces had opened heavy fire on Egyptian positions in answer to machine gun and mortar fire from the Egyptian side of the Gaza strip. A similar heavy attack had been made on the previous day.

Israel (*continued*)

27 Apr.—In a statement to the press, Mr Sharett, Prime Minister, criticized the U.S. decision to give military aid to Iraq, declaring that the effect could only be to increase Middle East tension. He added that Israel's request for military aid had not been granted although it had been based on 'simple security needs and on considerations of regional responsibility'. Mr Sharett also expressed concern because 'to all appearances the Jordan Government believes that in repudiating its express obligations (under the armistice agreement with Israel) it can rely on Britain's support'.

28 Apr.—**Jordan.** The Mixed Armistice Commission condemned Israel for a violation of the truce on 26 April at the border village of Budros.

1 May—U.S. Assistant Secretary of State on Israeli immigration (*see United States*).

3 May—**United States.** In a Note delivered to the American Embassy, the Government protested that Mr Byroade's remarks concerning Israeli immigration (*see United States, 1 May*) constituted 'unjustified interference' in Israeli domestic affairs.

Security Council debate (*see United Nations, Security Council*).

5 May—U.S. statement concerning Mr Byroade's speech (*see United States*).

ITALY. 3 May—**United States.** Mr Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, arrived in Milan from Geneva and had a long talk with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. He left later for the United States.

5 May—A motion by left-wing extremists proposing that members of the Opposition should be entitled to election to the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe and to the Coal and Steel Community was defeated in both Houses of Parliament. Coalition speakers maintained that European communities should be composed of supporters of a united Europe and not of sworn enemies of western co-operation.

JAPAN. 24 Apr.—**Confidence Vote.** A Socialist motion of no-confidence was defeated in the Diet by 228 votes to 208. Fourteen Progressives abstained.

JORDAN. 22 Apr.—**Great Britain.** Dr Hussein Fakhri el Khalidi, Foreign Minister, referred at a press conference to treaty relations with Britain and said that after thorough study of the British Government's explanations the Government understood that 'Britain would come to the aid of Jordan in any war against any country, including Israel, after Britain and Jordan had together discussed the possibility of, and failed to find, a peaceful settlement'.

28 Apr.—Condemnation of Israel by Mixed Armistice Commission (*see Israel*).

2 May—**Government Resignation.** Fawzi el-Mulki, Prime Minister, and his Cabinet resigned. A Government spokesman said the resignation was the result of a memorandum from the British Government

urging Jordan to accept the proposal of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for a meeting with Israel representatives to discuss the situation on the Jordan-Israel border in accordance with the Jordan-Israel armistice, and to accept proposals made to the Security Council for discussing the disputes in general instead of confining them to Jordan's complaint about the Israeli attack on Nahalin.

King Hussein requested Tewfiq Abul Huda, a former Prime Minister, to form a new Government.

4 May—New Government. King Hussein approved a new Government under Tewfiq Abul Huda which included: Hashem Jayyousi (Interior), Jamal Toukan (Foreign Affairs), Anwar Nuseibeh (Defence and Education), and Abdul Rahman Khalifah (Finance).

Security Council debate on border tension (*see United Nations, Security Council*).

KENYA. 23 Apr.—Budget. Mr Vasey, Finance Minister, introduced a budget increasing direct and indirect taxes to meet an estimated expenditure of £29,755,000 for the year beginning 1 July. He estimated emergency expenditure for 1954-5 at £8.5 m.

24 Apr.—Security forces began an operation involving the questioning of all Kikuyu, Embu, and Meru tribesmen living in Nairobi.

26 Apr.—The Government announced that 206 active terrorists had so far been identified since the Nairobi round up.

28 Apr.—Mr Hopkinson on security operation in Nairobi (*see Great Britain*).

KOREA. 26 Apr. et seq. Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China *q.v.*

LEBANON. 23 Apr.—Joint command for Syrian and Lebanon frontier forces (*see Syria*).

26 Apr.—Syria. The Syrian Foreign Minister, Fayid Atassi, had further talks in Beirut with Lebanese Ministers.

LIBYA. 1 May.—Queen Elizabeth of Britain and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived by air at Tobruk and were received by King Idris. They left later for Malta on the royal yacht *Britannia* in which their children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne, had sailed to Tobruk to meet them.

MALAYA. 27 Apr.—Legislative Council. Publication of an exchange of dispatches between Sir Gerald Templer, the High Commissioner and Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, showed that the British Government had endorsed Sir Gerald Templer's proposals for the future Legislative Council. These had the approval of the Malayan rulers but they differed in some respects from the proposals of the Federal Elections Committee (*see pp. 83-4*). It was agreed that there should be forty-six nominated members—three *ex officio*, eleven State and Settlement, twenty-two scheduled interests, three racial minorities, and seven nominated reserve—and fifty-two elected members. The

Malaya (*continued*)

committee's recommendations for direct elections to the Council, for common electoral rolls, the election of candidates by individual territorial constituencies, and the delineation of constituencies by a boundary commission were endorsed. Mr Lyttelton agreed with the majority view that it was premature to decide on a date for the elections but that if possible they should be held early in 1955.

Mr Lyttelton also endorsed the view of Sir Gerald Templer and the rulers that senior Government servants should not be allowed to stand for election, and he emphasized the importance of creating a Public Service Commission as soon as possible.

MALTA. 3 May—Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh with their children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne who had joined them at Tobruk, arrived in Malta in the course of their Commonwealth tour.

MOROCCO. 23 Apr.—Ex-Sultan's undertaking to French Government (*see France*).

30 Apr.—**Terrorism.** A series of terrorist attacks caused the deaths of three Europeans and the wounding of two.

NETHERLANDS. 3 May—Proposal *re* refugees (*see Council of Europe*).

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 23 Apr.—A one-day meeting of the North Atlantic Council was held in Paris. It was attended by Mr Eden, Mr Dulles, M. Bidault and other Foreign Ministers of the N.A.T.O. States. A communiqué after the meeting reaffirmed the resolve to maintain and develop the N.A.T.O. alliance, pointed to the need for 'continuing efforts, vigilance, and unity', and welcomed the ratification of E.D.C. by some of its signatories, as well as the 'far-reaching steps' taken by the British and United States Governments to associate themselves with E.D.C. The Council also noted with approval that none of its members proposed to recognize the 'so-called German Democratic Republic' in eastern Germany, and adopted a resolution recommending Governments to inform the Council of international political developments of concern to other member-States. A tribute was paid 'to the gallantry of the French Union forces fighting in Indo-China'. The Ministers noted that 'the military strength of the Soviet Union and its satellites continues to increase'.

5 May—**Marshal Juin.** A statement issued by the N.A.T.O. information service said that Marshal Juin had received the Council's resolution of 5 April (condemning public statements made by him contrary to the decisions of the Council), and had remained at his post. 'This means he will hereafter do nothing which is contrary to N.A.T.O. policy or wishes. The N.A.T.O. council therefore considers the matter closed.'

ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 5 May—**European Payments Union.** A meeting of the

Council of Ministers opened in Paris, having before it German proposals on behalf of creditor countries of the European Payments Union, and counter-proposals by Britain, the principal debtor. Under the German proposals existing debts would be paid off in gold within three years and, if E.P.U. were renewed for another year after 30 June, it would in future give less credit and insist on gold payments after a modest credit quota had been taken up. The British plan consisted of an offer to make an immediate gold payment of £30 m. to the four largest creditors (west Germany, Holland, Belgium, and Switzerland) to whom about £120 m. of the total British debt of £200 m. was owing, and to pay the balance over seven years.

Mr Butler, British Finance Minister, said that the Union was for the purpose of trading and not for collecting gold. The creditors' proposals would increase the tendency of the Union to get on to a gold basis, and Britain could not accept any proposals which tended to increase the amount of gold settlements. He acknowledged that debtor countries had a responsibility but said creditors must also accept some responsibility for the persistent surpluses, and he recalled that O.E.E.C. had itself recognized that the German surplus called for special treatment. If the British proposals were rejected Britain would be ready to see the Union renewed unchanged, but he pointed out that even in this case the obligations on creditors and debtors would still obtain. Herr Blücher (Germany) restated the creditors' position, and a possible compromise solution was put forward by M. Petitpierre, the Swiss delegate.

Trade Liberalization. M. Faure, French Finance Minister, explained why France had been able to liberalize her trade only to the extent of 52 per cent and why she had had to offset the effectiveness by introducing compensating taxes. He gave an assurance that the taxes were only temporary, and recalled that his Government stood committed to increase the percentage of trade liberalization to 65 per cent by 1 November.

PAKISTAN. 22 Apr.—Language Question. Shops in Karachi remained closed as a protest against a resolution of the Muslim League parliamentary party that both Bengali and Urdu should be official languages. Demonstrators stoned buses and smashed motor car windows and about 5,000 people marched to the Constituent Assembly to protest.

24 Apr.—King Saud left for Saudi Arabia. An official statement by Mr Mohammed Ali, Prime Minister, recorded 'complete accord' both on matters of immediate and common interest between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and on all matters of general interest to Islam and Muslims.

28 Apr.—Asian Prime Ministers' Conference, q.v.

4 May—Rejection of Soviet protest (see U.S.S.R.).

Kashmir. On returning from the conference at Colombo, Mr Mohammed Ali, Prime Minister, said Kashmir had been discussed at the conference but he had not had any separate discussions with Mr Nehru on any Indo-Pakistan issue. He was still corresponding with Mr Nehru on the Kashmir question. Mr Nehru had complicated the

Pakistan (continued) issue by linking with it other matters which in reality had no bearing on it. Mr Mohammed Ali said he would continue to work for the removal of misunderstandings and for the separation of extraneous issues.

Indo-China. In a reference to Mr Eden's letter to the three Commonwealth Prime Ministers attending the conference, Mr Mohammed Ali was emphatic that Pakistan could not spare troops for Indo-China.

PARAGUAY. 5 May—Paraguayan radio stations announced an attempted revolution but gave no further details.

PERSIA. 22 Apr.—**New Government.** Gen. Zahedi, Prime Minister, presented members of his Cabinet to the Shah. The only changes were the promotion of Gen. Farzanegan and Gen. Jahabani, formerly acting Minister of Posts and Telegraph and Minister of the Interior respectively, to Minister of Posts and Telegraph and Minister without Portfolio. Abdullah Entezam remained Foreign Minister and Dr Ali Amini, Finance Minister. Gen. Zahedi took over the Ministry of the Interior.

26 Apr.—The Government obtained a vote of confidence in the Senate by 39 votes to 1 with 5 abstentions.

Defence. The Defence Ministry announced that 100,000 tons of weapons, transport, engineering equipment, and raw materials for the army had been received under the military aid programme.

RUMANIA. 28 Apr.—**Trials of Zionists.** It was learned that at secret trials held since the autumn of 1953 a number of prominent Jews had been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for 'Zionist crimes'.

SAUDI ARABIA. 25 Apr.—Saudi Arabian-Pakistan talks (*see Pakistan*).

SOUTH AFRICA. 4 May—**South-west Africa.** In a speech to the Assembly Dr Malan said that the United Nations demanded annual reports about South-west Africa and the Government refused to provide them. The last report submitted voluntarily by Gen. Smuts had elicited from the U.N. Trusteeship Committee a statement that the tribal reserves should be abolished. This was a stupid suggestion. What would happen to tribal Natives if white men moved into their territory? The Government would continue to refuse interference in domestic affairs. It was prepared to negotiate a new agreement with the original signatories of the mandate, undertaking to administer the territory in the spirit of the mandate, which was in fact how it was being administered, but this was not acceptable to the United Nations.

Much of the unrest in Africa south of the Sahara was due to United Nations insistence that Natives were oppressed and that all peoples, whether civilized or not, should have the vote. Another danger was Communism, and a third danger India. Mr Nehru wanted the whites out of Africa and had definitely encouraged a resistance movement in South Africa. Fortunately the campaign had failed. If an African charter were ever to be formed it was essential, first, that Africans should be

protected against Asian penetration, next, that there should be co-operation against the Communist threat, and third, that Africans should be protected against militarism. Dr Malan deplored the continued hostility against South Africa in Britain, especially in the British press.

Industrial Conciliation Bill. The conference of trade unions rejected by 61 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions, the principle in a clause of the proposed industrial conciliation Bill that the Minister of Labour should be empowered to reserve occupations for particular races.

SPAIN. 29 Apr.—U.S. Aid. It was announced that the \$85 m. assigned to Spain by the United States as economic aid for the period ending 30 June was being distributed as follows: technical assistance \$1 m.; coal, cotton, and other raw materials, \$31 m.; agricultural implements, \$8.5 m.; roads and irrigation, \$5 m.; railways, \$11 m.; electric power, \$12.5 m.; steel industry, \$8 m.; cement manufacturing machinery, \$4 m.; civil aviation, defence industry, and mining, \$4 m.

SUDAN. 22 Apr.—Governor-General's Commission. The Sudanese Parliament approved the appointment of Senator Siricio Iro, a member of the National Unionist Party, to the Governor-General's Commission in place of Sayed Ibrahim Ahmed of the Independence Party. The change gave the Commission a pro-Egyptian majority.

3 May—The Umma (Independence) Party sent to the Governor-General a statement protesting against the recent appointment of a pro-Unionist senator to the Governor-General's Commission in place of Sayed Ibrahim Ahmed, and accusing Egypt of interfering in Sudanese affairs. It called on the British and Egyptian Governments to restore the balance and impartiality of the Commission, and it demanded that Egyptian interference should cease.

SYRIA. 23 Apr.—Lebanon. After a visit by Abdullah Yaffi, the Lebanese Prime Minister, for discussions with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, it was announced that Syrian and Lebanese frontier forces were operating under a joint command.

26 Apr.—Frontier Incident. A Syrian military spokesman reported that two Syrians had been killed and one injured in an attack by Israeli regular forces on Arab inhabitants of the demilitarized zone at Sham-alneh, at the southern end of the frontier. Members of the U.N. observer corps had been summoned to investigate.

Discussions with Lebanese Ministers (*see Lebanon*).

5 May—Border Tension. The Secretary-General of the Foreign Ministry had separate meetings with the diplomatic representatives of Britain, France, the United States, Russia, Brazil, and Turkey. It was understood that he expressed Syria's anxiety about continuing border tension and discontent at the ineffectiveness of the U.N. truce supervisory organization.

Brigadier Shishakly. The Minister of Justice announced in Parliament that Brigadier Shishakly (who was in Paris) would be tried for staging a *coup* and violating the constitution.

TIBET. 28 Apr.—Sino-Indian agreement on Tibet (*see China*).

TURKEY. 28 Apr.—Turkish concern *re* Cyprus (*see Greece*).

2 May—General Election. An election was held as a result of which the Democratic Party won 508 seats in Parliament, the People's Party 28 seats, and the National Party 5 seats.

Mr Menderes, the Prime Minister, told the press that the Democratic Party would continue its loyalty to the United Nations, to N.A.T.O., to the Balkan Pact, and to the pact with Pakistan. At home it would pursue its programme of economic development.

UGANDA. 28 Apr.—Royal Tour. Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Entebbe for a three-day visit to Uganda in the course of their Commonwealth tour.

29 Apr.—The Queen opened the Owen Falls dam at Jinja.

30 Apr.—The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh left Uganda by air for Tobruk.

5 May—Buganda. It was learned that in a letter to the Governor on the procedure to be followed in his discussions with the Baganda constitutional committee, Sir Keith Hancock had stated that in his view the mission would not make sense unless it did something immediate and practical to open the road towards the realization of the long-term objectives of making Uganda into primarily an African and self-governing State and to strengthen confidence among the Baganda and others that these objectives would in fact be progressively reached. He expressed the hope that the three members who resigned on 21 April would return to the committee. The Governor had expressed agreement with these views.

UNITED NATIONS

Disarmament Commission

23 Apr.—The delegates of Russia, the United States, France, Great Britain, and Canada agreed to take part in closed disarmament talks on 13 May in London. Mr Vyshinsky (U.S.S.R.) reserved the right to return to his proposal of 14 April, urging the inclusion of Communist China, India, and Czechoslovakia.

Security Council

4 May—Israeli-Jordan Tension. The Council voted for a general debate on Israel-Jordan border tension. Russia and Lebanon opposed the motion.

UNITED STATES. 22 Apr.—In an address to the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, President Eisenhower urged newspapers and radio stations to bring home to the people 'the facts of existence'. He said that 75 per cent of the world's population lived under conditions where news was censored and the vacuum filled by the 'poisonous propaganda of the Soviets'.

23 Apr.—European Coal and Steel Community. The Govern-

ment and the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community signed an agreement for a twenty-five-year loan of \$100 m. to the Community at 3½ per cent interest, for the modernization and development of its resources. The loan was to be made by the Export-Import Bank with moneys provided by the Treasury from mutual security appropriations for the fiscal year 1954. It was to be repaid in twenty-two equal instalments after 1957.

25 Apr.—Military aid to Iraq (*see Iraq*).

26 Apr.—Anglo-U.S. defence discussions (*see Great Britain*).

Indo-China. The French Secretary of State for Military Aviation stated that he had asked the U.S. Air Force to provide for Indo-China any bombers available from Korea, Japan, and the Philippines.

Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China *q.v.*

Defence Budget. The House Appropriations Committee recommended a defence budget of \$28,680.7 m. for 1954-5 which was about \$1,206 m. less than was requested and about \$5,632.6 m. less than was voted for 1953-4. The Committee's report stated that a large sum remained unspent from previous appropriations. It allocated \$7,615.5 m. to the Army to support an estimated average force of 1,308,600 during the year; \$9,705.8 m. to the Navy and \$600 m. to the Marine Corps; and \$10,819.3 m. to the Air Force which was expected to increase its aircraft from 21,010 to 22,927.

29 Apr.—The House of Representatives passed the appropriation Bill for the Defence Department, having rejected by 214 votes to 37 an amendment by Mr Coudert, which would have forbidden the use of any of the funds appropriated for the support of American troops in armed conflict in any part of the world in which the United States had no treaty obligations.

1 May—Israel. In a speech at Philadelphia to the (anti-Zionist) American Council of Judaism, Mr Byroade, assistant Secretary of State, advised Israel to limit her immigration in order to remove Arab fears of eventual expansionist aggression.

3 May—Mr Dulles's talks in Italy (*see Italy*).

Israeli protest *re* Mr Byroade's speech (*see Israel*).

4 May—Mr Dulles returned from Europe.

5 May—Czechoslovak protest at leaflet raid (*see Czechoslovakia*).

Geneva Conference. In a written statement read to his press conference, President Eisenhower reaffirmed the United States' support for United Nations principles and its belief in collective security, and said that in pursuance of the U.N. principle the United States had entered into regional security agreements with other nations. These arrangements were designed to assure the peaceful security of the contracting nations and to prevent the likelihood of attack. Referring to the Communist scheme for Korean unification submitted at Geneva, he said it was a Chinese copy of the Soviet scheme for German unification. According to this proposal no election measures could be taken without Communist consent and there could be no impartial supervision of the election conditions or of the voting. The scheme was rejected for Germany, and Secretary Dulles had told the President it was equally

United States (continued)

unacceptable to the Republic of Korea and to the U.N. members which took part in the Korean war. Meanwhile, plans were proceeding for the realization of a south-east Asia security arrangement. Most of the free nations of the area and others directly concerned had shown interest and talks were proceeding. The fact that such an organization was in process of formation could have an important bearing on the discussions at Geneva on Indo-China. Progress had been considerable, and the President was convinced that further progress would be made.

Israel. The State Department announced that in an interview with the Israeli Ambassador, Mr Byroade had expressed regret that his speech of 1 May should have been considered intervention in Israel's internal affairs, but he had felt impelled to speak frankly about what he felt to be some of the underlying causes of the Arab-Israeli dispute because they increasingly affected security in the Middle East. He still hoped that the Israeli Government would give serious attention to the immigration problem.

U.S.S.R. 23 Apr.—Australia. Petrov Case. The Soviet deputy Foreign Minister delivered a Note to the Australian Chargé d'Affaires, protesting at the 'kidnapping' of Mrs Petrov, and the 'assault on', and search of, Soviet diplomatic couriers, 'carried out with bodily force', which, it declared, constituted 'the most brutal violations of the generally accepted norms of international law'. It repeated the allegations against Mr Petrov made in the Note to the Australian Government by the Soviet Embassy in Canberra on 21 April, and demanded the surrender of both Mr and Mrs Petrov. The Note also announced the decision to recall the Soviet Ambassador in Australia and his remaining staff, and it added that in the circumstances the personnel of the Australian Embassy could not remain in Moscow.

Australian Note regarding Petrov (*see Australia*).

Geneva Conventions. Russia announced her ratification of the 1949 Geneva conventions for the protection of war victims.

24 Apr.—Geneva Conference. The Foreign Ministry delivered identical Notes to the three western Embassies, reiterating the demand that China should be seated at the Geneva Conference on an equality with Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union.

Cessation of purchases of Australian wool (*see Australia*).

25 Apr.—Petrov Case. Australian Note (*see Australia*).

26 Apr. et seq. Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China q.v. Soviet decision to join I.L.O. (*see International Labour Organization*).

Foreign Policy. Mr Malenkov, Prime Minister, speaking to the Council of Nationalities, said that Russia attached primary importance to the consolidation of European security, and he was convinced that the Soviet proposals put forward at the Berlin Conference for a European security pact could provide the real basis of European security. He repeated that the United States need not be excluded from this pact, and he again proposed that Russia should join N.A.T.O. He declared it to be 'an open swindle to say that under the cover of the European

Defence Community German militarism can peacefully co-exist with France, which will be deprived of her national armed forces', and he claimed that the founders of E.D.C. wanted 'to see France fall prey to German vengeance' and wanted to undermine the Anglo-Soviet and Franco-Soviet pacts which were 'the cornerstone of European security'. Mr Malenkov reaffirmed Soviet belief in the possibility of the peaceful coexistence of capitalism and Communism and declared that a change in western policy towards China was essential for the normalization of international relations. He gave a warning that 'if aggressive circles, relying on atomic weapons, should decide senselessly that they wish to best the strength and power of the Soviet Union, then there is no doubt that the aggressor would be crushed by his own weapons and that any such adventure would lead inescapably to the downfall of the capitalist social system'. After referring to the 'ever-growing' Soviet use of atomic energy both for security and peaceful uses, he declared that the Soviet Government would continue to press for the banning of atomic weapons and for a reduction in armaments and armed forces.

Home Affairs. Turning to domestic affairs, Mr Malenkov reported that the current five-year plan for consumer goods and trade turnover would be completed ahead of schedule. He said that in the past three years industrial output had increased by 45 per cent, consumer goods production by 43 per cent, and real wages by 30 per cent. The expansion of the scope of several ministries had caused difficulties and it had been decided to make organizational changes provided the reduction in administrative expenditure could be maintained. Results of the first quarter of 1954 were on the whole satisfactory but certain ministries, including those of ferrous metals, oil production, transport, heavy machine building, and timber production had not fulfilled the quarterly plan. Deficiencies in labour discipline and the cost of production required improvement.

In a speech to the Supreme Soviet, Mr Krushchev, First Secretary of the Communist Party, urged stronger leadership by the party to overcome 'major shortcomings' in agriculture and other departments. He criticized the Finance Ministry for being over-staffed and disorderly, and advocated the splitting up of ministries in the interest of efficiency.

27 Apr.—The Supreme Soviet re-elected Mr Malenkov Prime Minister and Marshal Voroshilov State President with Mr Nikolai Pegov as Secretary. It also approved Mr Malenkov's list of Ministers which, with the exception of a few minor posts, was the same as before. Mr Molotov, Foreign Minister, Marshal Bulganin, Defence Minister, and Mr Kaganovich were designated First Deputy Premiers, and the following were designated Deputy Premiers: Mr Mikoyan (Domestic Trade), Mr Saburov (Chairman of State Planning), Mr Pervukhin, Mr Tevosyan, Mr Malyshev (Transport Construction), and Mr Kosygin (Food).

The Supreme Soviet also elected in addition to Marshal Voroshilov, the Chairman, and Mr Pegov, the Secretary, sixteen vice-chairmen and fifteen members of the Praesidium. The latter included Mr Andreyev, Marshal Budenny, and Mr Ponomarenko.

U.S.S.R. (continued)

Security. The establishment of a new Committee for State Security under Mr I. A. Serov was announced. It was to be distinct from the M.V.D. (Ministry of Internal Affairs) which remained under Mr Kruglov.

29 Apr.—Australia. The Australian Chargé d'Affaires and his staff left for Australia following the rupture of relations.

Government Reorganization. *Tass* announced the re-establishment of a number of ministries which had been merged in March 1953.

4 May—Pakistan. A Note was received from the Pakistan Government in reply to the Soviet protest against Pakistan's acceptance of U.S. military aid (*see 28 March*). The Pakistan Note rejected the protest, declaring that Russia had drawn an 'unjustified conclusion' in believing that Pakistan had placed military bases at the disposal of the United States.

YUGOSLAVIA. 24 Apr.—Protests to Federal German Government (*see Germany*).

4 May—E.D.C. In a statement to the parliamentary foreign affairs committee, Mr Popovic, Foreign Minister, said that the Government's attitude towards the European Defence Community was 'positive' but at the same time subject to certain reservations. The Government thought that the chances for the realization of the E.D.C. would be more favourable and its functioning more effective if mutual confidence were built up through various forms of co-operation and means were found for solving existing contradictions between European countries, notably France and Germany. The existing situation of 'relaxed tension' and the ever-present fear of aggression made possible an approach to co-operation on a wider basis, and Yugoslavia considered it incumbent on her 'to take part in efforts leading to this end'.

Mr Popovic said the process of restoring normal relations between Yugoslavia and some east European countries had begun but was developing very slowly.

The CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS is published twice a month by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London, S.W.1.

In the United States it may be obtained from the Royal Institute of International Affairs, New York Publications Office, 345 East 46th Street, New York 17, N.Y.

Annual Subscription, including Index, 25s. (\$5.00)

Price per copy 1s. (25c.)
